

notes

A Publication for the Residents of Phoenix

November 2003

Phoenix lights up *for the holidays*

If you're looking for the perfect place for you and your family to celebrate the holidays, Phoenix is the place to be.

The city has put together another exciting lineup of holiday events featuring fun activities for people of all ages.

Tops among them is the APS Electric Light Parade, which annually draws upwards of 250,000 people who line the streets to see the spectacular display of lighted floats and marching bands.



This year's parade, "Toyland on Central," will be 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 on Central Avenue from

Missouri Avenue to Thomas Road. NewsChannel 3 again will air the parade live and New K-Lite 98.7 will carry the sounds and offer commentary.

Although the event is free, spectators will be able to purchase tickets for a special bleacher section elevated above the crowd. Call 602-262-4627 for information.

For more parade information, call 602-262-4627 or 602-534-FEST (3378).

Other holiday celebration highlights include a colorful display of about a half-million lights at the Arizona Center, 455 N. Third St.; Holiday Sale & Art Show, Dec. 5 and 6; Fiesta of Light 5-K Run and Walk, Saturday, Dec. 6; Christmas & Kwanzaa Expo, Saturday, Dec. 6; Victorian Holiday Celebration, Saturday, Dec. 13; Breakfast with Santa, Saturday, Dec. 13; and Midnight Madness 5-K Run and Walk, Wednesday, Dec. 31.

See inside for details of all of the holiday events.

Events are produced by the city of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department. Sponsors of the celebration include Arizona Public Service, New K-Lite 98.7, NewsChannel 3, America West Airlines, Hyatt Downtown Phoenix, Phoenix Civic Plaza, Coca-Cola and Bashas'.



Don't forget – shop Phoenix

Whether you're planning a big holiday shopping spree or waiting for the after-holiday sales, be sure to do your buying in Phoenix.

Sales taxes on the merchandise you buy go into the city's general fund, which helps pay for many important city services, including police and fire. When you shop in other communities, the taxes go to the general funds of those cities.

So, shop Phoenix whenever you can.



Phoenix Bird travels the globe

The Phoenix Bird is becoming quite the world traveler.

Many city workers take the official city logo with them when they go on vacation and have their picture taken with it for publication in the employee newsletter.

In just the last year or so, the bird has winged its way across the United States and through numerous foreign countries, including

Chile, Romania, Italy, New Zealand, France, Africa, Mexico, Canada, Brazil, Jamaica and Scotland.

It's been on a safari, scaled mountains, gone deep sea diving, experienced whitewater rafting, visited tall buildings, rappelled from cliffs and trudged through snow.

Pictured are a few of its most recent memorable trips.

Terry Gellenbeck of Public Works went to Ohio with the bird and visited the unique, five-story corporate offices of the Longaberger Basket Co.



Parks and Recreation employee Linda Dunkin (from left) and Civic Plaza employees Scott Brathold and Gayle Szot gave the bird a look at New Zealand's famous Fox Glacier on the west coast of South Island.



Tyre Davis of Parks and Recreation took the Phoenix bird to the Montreal World Film Festival in Quebec, Canada, one of North America's oldest cities.

Water Services employee Charles Hernandez brought the bird with him on a 95-foot dive off the island of Cozumel in the Mexican Caribbean.



Exchange program offers international experience

If you are a high school junior and Phoenix resident who is interested in foreign travel, you should consider applying for the Phoenix Sister Cities Commission Youth Ambassador Exchange Program.

The program offers students the opportunity to visit one of the city's nine sister cities – Calgary, Canada; Catania, Italy; Chengdu, China; Ennis, Ireland; Grenoble, France; Hermosillo, Mexico; Himeji, Japan; Prague, Czech Republic; and Taipei, Taiwan – next summer through a three-week home-hosted experience.

Phoenix students reciprocate and house their host brother or sister when they visit Phoenix during the same summer.

The criteria for selection include self-confidence, maturity, flexibility, leadership and good communication skills. Applications must be received by 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 16, 2004.

The commission pays half of the travel expenses between Phoenix and the selected sister city, while the remaining half is the responsibility of the students and their families. Financial assistance is available for qualified students.

For more information, visit www.phoenix.gov/YOUTH/ambassdr.html or call 602-534-3751.



Volunteers to be honored

Individuals, organizations and businesses that have contributed volunteer leadership or services that improve the quality of life for low-income residents will be honored at the 32nd annual Community Recognition dinner 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2, at the Hyatt Regency Downtown Phoenix, 122 N. Second St.

The event is sponsored by the city's Human Services Department in cooperation with the Phoenix Human Services Commission and Phoenix Workforce Connection.

Reservations can be made by calling 602-262-7379 by Friday, Nov. 24.

Adopt a family for holidays



The city's annual Holiday Adopt-A-Family Program is looking for people interested in sharing the holiday spirit with the less fortunate.

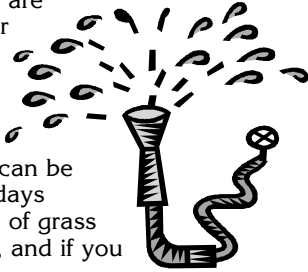
Sponsors are needed to provide toys, clothing and household items to low-income families who are experiencing difficult times and are unable to buy gifts for their children. Last year, the program helped 340 families.

For more information, call 602-262-6669.

Time to reduce lawn watering

Now that the nights are longer and cooler, your lawn needs less water to stay healthy.

Your irrigation schedule of watering every three days now can be stretched to 21 to 30 days depending on the type of grass you have in your yard, and if you water deeply.



To help your lawn stay green, become more drought-tolerant and save water, check the watering schedule in the daily newspapers or visit <http://ag.arizona.edu/azmet> on the Internet. You also can order "Landscape Watering by the Numbers" irrigation brochure, guide card and ruler from the Phoenix Water Conservation Office.

For more water saving tips and information on landscape and irrigation workshops visit phoenix.gov, send e-mail to conservation@phoenix.gov or call 602-261-8367.

APS Fiesta of Light activities



Holiday Sale & Student Art Show
11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5 and
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6,
Phoenix Center for the Arts,
1202 N. Third St. 602-262-4627.



Christmas & Kwanzaa Expo
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6,
Heritage & Science Park,
115 N. Sixth St. Crafts, food and
entertainment. 602-262-5029. Free.



Fiesta of Light 5K Run/Walk
5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6.
Start and finish at Central Avenue
and Merrell Street. 480-345-5752 or
www.runningmasters.net.



APS Electric Light Parade
7 p.m., Saturday Dec. 6, Central
Avenue from Missouri Avenue to
Thomas Road. Free or information on
tickets for bleacher seating is available
by calling 602-262-4627.



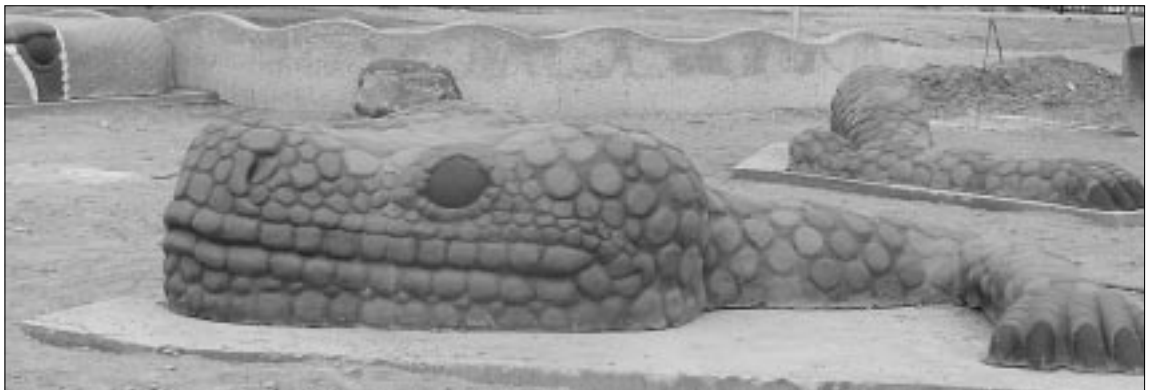
Breakfast with Santa
9 - 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 13,
Phoenix Museum of History,
105 N. Fifth St. RSVP only
602-261-8948. Call for cost.



Victorian Holiday
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13,
Heritage & Science Park,
115 N. Sixth St. 602-262-5029. Free.



Midnight Madness 5K Run and Walk
10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31,
Rose Mofford Sports Complex,
9833 N. 25th Ave. This is a family-
oriented and alcohol-free event with
live music, hot chili and cornbread.
Call 480-345-5752 or go to
www.runningmasters.net



A three-dimensional Gila monster and snake will help keep children busy when they visit the city's newest park. The 66-acre Pecos Park at 48th Street and Pecos Park Parkway in Ahwatukee that opened last month also features soccer fields, basketball courts, volleyball courts, tennis courts, multipurpose fields, a skate park, a dog park and a swimming pool with a water slide and diving well.

Help keep Valley skies blue

The Clean Air Campaign invites residents to help combat dirty air during the ongoing carbon monoxide and particulate pollution season, which runs through February.



Carbon monoxide, which is a tasteless and odorless gas that hampers the body's ability to use oxygen, comes from vehicle emissions, wood fires, barbecues and gasoline-powered garden equipment. The main sources of particulate pollution, which invade the respiratory system when inhaled, are vehicle emissions, fireplaces and dust raised from unpaved roads.

You can help by using alternative forms of transportation, refraining from using wood-burning fireplaces and gasoline-powered gardening equipment, and avoiding driving on unpaved roads. Also, be on alert for "no burn" days when wood-burning fireplaces are not allowed to be used.

To find a carpool or vanpool partner, visit ShareTheRide.com. Information about alternative forms of transportation also is available at 602-262-RIDE (7433).

Household hazardous waste collections set

Phoenix residents can dispose of household hazardous waste and other items at BOPA collections 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 11-13 at Encanto Park, 2125 N. 15th Ave., just south of the basketball courts, and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Jan. 8-10 at Maryvale Baseball Complex, 3600 N. 51st Ave.

In addition to batteries, oil, paint and antifreeze, the event will accept five automobile or light truck tires per resident, computers and household appliances, including refrigerators, stoves, evaporative coolers, air conditioners, washers, dryers and water heaters.

Commercial loads will not be accepted.

The city also will pick up household appliances and computers at your home for a \$10 fee. Call to schedule a collection. For information, call 602-262-7251, send e-mail to pwserve@phoenix.gov or visit phoenix.gov/GARBAGE.



Diversity series features mystery writer

Annette Mahon, an author and retired librarian, will discuss her passion for quilting and how she weaves quilts into her mystery stories at the city's Faces of Diversity Brown Bag lunch series noon to 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, at Phoenix City Council Chambers, 200 W. Jefferson St.

Her stories feature a group of women who solve mysteries over a quilting frame.

For more information, call 602-261-8242 or 602-534-1557/TTY.

Airport defibrillators save lives

Placing automatic external defibrillators throughout Sky Harbor International Airport has been paying off in a big way.

Since the 60 units that are used to revive heart attack victims were placed in the airport terminals three years ago, seven people have had their hearts restarted by a defibrillator shock administered by police or airport workers.

notes

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